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3 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting on 3 September 1969

DDI reported on the progress of computer supported analysis of the prospects for hostilities between the Soviet Union and Communist China.



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Godfrey reported that an interim assessment of the prospects for succession to Ho Chi Minh was prepared at White House request last night.

The Director initiated a discussion of the lack of warning in the intelligence community of the recent military coup in Libya. He expressed concern that US military attaches did not appear to have sufficiently broad contacts in the Libyan armed forces. He suggested that DIA be queried about the extent of its contacts in the new military government in Tripoli.

Abbot Smith reported that the White House had asked for a quick assessment of the prospects for continued US access to Libyan oil.

Abbot Smith informed the Director that there were no new developments in connection with NIE 11-8-69 which is again scheduled for USIB consideration on 4 September.

Carver spoke briefly about the implications of Ho Chi Minh's illness and reported on the status of CIA coordination of a DOD paper on NSSM 36.

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*The Director asked Mr. Karamessines to make every effort to obtain the latest information on political developments in Hanoi as a result of Ho Chi Minh's illness.

Maury reported that a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, Mr. Paul, had informed him that the Committee wished to hold hearings on US Government involvement in each country of Southeast Asia, and that Agency participation would be requested. The Director informed Mr. Maury that Agency participation would require a request from Senator Symington.

*The Director reported that he had requested a meeting with Senator Russell and asked Mr. Maury to make arrangements for him to see Senator Jackson.

Bross reported on arrangements for briefing General Maxwell Taylor in connection with his pending trip to Europe and the Middle East.

Duckett reported that the new Executive Secretary of the Space Council, former Astronaut Enders, should bring vigorous and constructive staff direction to that organization and result in significantly improved relations with the Agency.

*Karamessines reported on the recent TV appearance of Mr. Kuznetsov, the recent Soviet defector in London. The Director suggested that Goodwin arrange to have the film of the program shown for interested Agency employees.

*Executive Director presented the Deputy Directors with copies of the draft annual Agency report to the PFIAB. He requested that the draft be reviewed by the Deputies or a senior staff officer and returned with any comments by 10 September. Executive Director desires to submit the report to the Director by mid-month. It is due to the PFIAB by the end of September. Executive Director requested that the Deputies give particular attention to the possibility of strengthening the sections dealing with problems and deficiencies and with our ability to report on the Sino-Soviet threat.

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* Executive Director reported that Jim Clark of BOB had expressed concern about an article scheduled for publication in a new magazine, The National Journal, which dealt with the BOB's handling of the Agency budget. The article quotes a former member of the International Division of the BOB in citing the size of the Agency and intelligence community budgets and identifies certain clandestine Agency programs. The Director suggested that Mr. Goodwin talk to officials of the magazine and attempt to get them to delete certain sensitive data including the budget figures. The Director also asked that the Executive Director tell Jim Clark of the Agency's concern with the article. The Director said that he would be willing to take the subject up with Budget Director Mayo and Congressman Mahon if necessary.

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The Director informed the DDI that [Redacted] would ask Bruce Clarke to prepare a paper on the Soviet Navy for Mr. Baroody who is on Secretary Laird's staff. The Director said that it was important to seize this opportunity to air the Agency's views with Secretary Laird prior to Congressional hearings on the military budget.

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The Director said that he had circulated copies of a letter from Lyman Kirkpatrick to the officers of NBC protesting the network's use of portions of an interview in its recent program on the Pueblo case. The Director authorized the Deputies to inform employees of Mr. Kirkpatrick's position.

Goodwin reported [Redacted] a copy of the press interview given by Green Beret Defense Attorney Rothblatt in Los Angeles.

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L. K. White

*Extracted and sent to action officer

- 3 -

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